

Highlights for 7/13/2016

- Facility owner removed 8 truckloads (approximately 192 pallets) of frozen product from the facility.
- Approximately 708 pallets of frozen product remain in the facility – at the current rate of frozen product removal, it is anticipated all frozen product will be removed from the facility by Monday, July 18.
- 30 residents (6 homes) remain relocated
- Unified Command meeting held this morning to discuss possibilities for expediting frozen product removal from facility

Objectives for 7/14/2016

- Unified Command Meeting to be held at 0900
- Continue removal of frozen product
- Approve work plan for removal of ammonia from refrigeration system
- Continue to inform the public of ongoing activities
- Continue air monitoring
- Continue relocation efforts
- Continue receiving IMACC air modeling support

Sitrep for 7/13/16 activities:

A Unified Command meeting was held this morning to discuss options for expediting the removal of frozen product from the facility. During the conversation, the property owner stated, under the advice of his attorney, he would not allow EPA personnel or contractors on the facility to assist in frozen product removal operations. Currently, EPA is prepared to have a refrigeration contractor on site on Monday, July 18 to begin preparations for the removal of the ammonia from the refrigeration system. EPA continues to negotiate access for this activity with the facility owner and his attorney. It is anticipated the preparation work will take two days to complete. Once the preparation work is complete, removal of the ammonia from the refrigeration system can commence. It is anticipated approximately 85% of the ammonia will be removed within the first 48 hours of removal operations. The removal of the remaining 15% will require approximately an additional week.

Fact Sheet # 3 (in English and Spanish) dated July 12, 2016 was produced and provided to the City of Vineland for posting to the City's web site consistent with the previous Fact Sheets. The Fact Sheet was also sent to elected officials and to EPA's media list for the response.

EPA PAD continues to interface with relocated residents as well as with residents within the immediate neighborhood to keep people informed of the situation. Of the seven homes originally relocated, all remain relocated with the exception of one family composed of six adults that have chosen to return to their house and plan to remain there unless EPA suggests that they relocate once the ammonia extraction begins. Detailed information is being provided to Vineland Fire Dept. for securing the homes while unoccupied.

EPA PAD received a request and subsequently facilitated a conference call for OSC Neil Norrell to brief Richard Locklear, Special Projects Manager for Southern New Jersey of the Office of U.S. Senator Bob Menendez.

EPA PAD received and replied to two media inquiries from NJ TV and the Press of Atlantic City. During the current news cycle interest is turning away from a lead story about an imminent risk, now that a response is underway, and toward the inconvenience and disruption of the relocated families.